

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OIC-02 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03

ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /108 W

-----069941 160152Z /65

R 151525Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2557

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USUN 651

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 3060

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORC, ELAB, CM

SUBJ: GURC CONCERNS RE USG INTENTIONS TOWARD ILO

REF: YAOUNDE 2289

1. EMBOFF MET WITH HENRY FOSSUNG, FORMIN CHIEF OF SERVICE FOR UN SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS, ON 8 JULY TO DISCUSS RECENTLY COMPLETED ILO CONFERENCE. WHILE FOSSUNG INITIALLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RECEIVING FULL READOUT OF USG IMPRESSIONS OF CONFERENCE, IT BECAME CLEAR AS MEETING PROGRESSED THAT WHAT HE AND GURC WERE MOST CONCERNED WITH WERE USG INTENTIONS TOWARD ILO IN LIGHT OF CONFERENCE RESULTS AND EXISTING DECLARATION OF USG PLANS TO WITHDRAW BY NOVEMBER 1977.

2. RE USG VIEWS OF CONFERENCE RESULTS, EMBOFF TOLD FOSSUNG THAT FINAL RESOLUTION OF ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ISSUE WAS TAKEN AS POSITIVE SIGN BY USG THAT MANY ILO MEMBER COUNTRIES PREPARED TO SEE ORGANIZATION RETURN TO ITS PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING WORKER WELFARE THROUGHOUT WORLD. ON OTHER HAND, RESULTS OF ARTICLE 17 DEBATE DISAPPOINTING SINCE IT SHOWED SOCIALIST AND RADICAL THIRD WORLD MEMBER STATES STILL HAD NOT ONLY VOTES BUT INCLINATION TO USE ILO FORUM AS POLITICAL WEAPON. FOSSUNG OPINED THAT US
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DEFEATED ON ARTICLE 17 BECAUSE MAJORITY OF THIRD WORLD MEMBER COUNTRIES FELT THAT ANY PROCEDURAL REVIEW SHOULD NOT BE MADE PIECEMEAL, BUT ONLY AFTER WHOLE ORGANIZATION'S OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE HAD BEEN STUDIED. EMBOFF POINTED OUT, THAT IN HIS OPINION, "PIECEMEAL" ARGUMENT AND "FULL PROCEDURAL REVIEW" POSITION WERE IN EFFECT PARLIAMENTARY TACTICS ON THE PART OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHO OPPOSE BASIC DESIRES OF SOME MEMBERS TO RETURN

ILO'S WORK TO ITS ORIGINAL PURPOSES. FOSSUNG RESPONDED WITH WRY SMILE SHOWING HE UNDERSTOOD ALL THIS, BUT CONTIUNED TO ADVOCATE JUSTICE OF FULL PROCEDURAL REVIEW BEFORE SPECIFIC ARTICLES OF ILO CHARTER AMENDED.

3. FOSSUNG THEN POSED MAIN QUESTION ON HIS MIND: WOULD USG WITHDRAW FROM ILO IN LIGHT OF CONFERENCE RESULTS? HE FOLLOWED QUESTION WITH STATEMENT THAT US AS MAJOR WORLD POWER WOULD LOOSE MUCH PRESTIGE AND ITS ABILITY TO PREVENT ILO FROM BECOMING TOTAL SOCIALIST WEAPON IF IT WITHDREW. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT MANY US OFFICIALS FELT AS HE DID AND THAT SINCE WITHDRAWAL NOTIFICATIN HAD BEEN MADE BY PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION, IT CERTAINLY WOULD BE FULLY REVIEWED BY PRSENT ADMINISTRATION BEFORE BEING IMPLEMENTED. EMBOFF STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT GURC SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE EXTENT OF USG AND AMERICAN LABOR MOTEMENT DISSATISFACTION WITH CONTINUING USE OF UN'S SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

4. COMMENT: BASED ON ABOVE, IT IS CLEAR GURC CONCERNED BY US NOTICE TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO AND BY POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES SUCH WITHDRAWAL WILL HAVE FOR UN AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, FROM WHICH CAMEROON OBTAINS MANY BENEFITS. IT ALSO CLEAR, HOWEVER, GURC IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH PRACTICAL RESULTS OF US WITHDRAWAL AND LOSS OUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND NOT WITH MERITS OF HAVING ILO CONCENTRATE ON TECHNICAL MATTERS WITHIN ITS COMPETENCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977YAOUND03060
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770253-0580
Format: TEL
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770751/aaaabrse.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 YAOUNDE 2289
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1842546
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GURC CONCERNS RE USG INTENTIONS TOWARD ILO
TAGS: PORC, ELAB, CM, US, ILO, (FOSSUNG, HENRY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/152ec06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009